

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (original) A method for optimizing the flexibility of each golf club shaft in a set of golf clubs, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

(i) determining the relative swing speed of the golfer for which the golf club shafts will be optimized; and

(ii) selecting the appropriate category of golf club shafts from a plurality of categories, wherein the range of shaft flexibility exhibited by a category of golf club shafts optimized for golfers with relatively high swing speeds is greater than the range of flexibility exhibited by a category of golf club shafts optimized for golfers with relatively lower swing speeds.

2. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the variability in range of shaft flexibility among said plurality of categories is irregular.

3. (canceled)

4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, A method for optimizing the flexibility of each golf club shaft in a set of golf clubs, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

(i) determining the relative swing speed of the golfer for which the golf club shafts will be optimized; and

(ii) selecting the appropriate category of golf club shafts from a plurality of categories, wherein the range of shaft flexibility exhibited by a category of golf club shafts optimized for golfers with relatively high swing speeds is greater than the range of flexibility exhibited by a category of golf club shafts optimized for golfers with relatively lower swing speeds, and wherein the variance in shaft flexibility exhibited by the plurality of shafts that comprise each category is consistent.

6. (canceled)

7. (canceled)

8. (canceled)

9. (canceled)

10. (canceled)

11. (original) A set of golf clubs comprising a plurality of golf club shafts, wherein the flexibility of the plurality of golf club shafts is optimized in accordance with claim 1.

12. (canceled)